

REMARKS

Attached is a Preliminary Amendment to the priority claim.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of the Specification as amended.

Respectfully submitted,

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}



Michael S. Smith

Patent Agent

Registration No. 39,563

Direct Dial: 206.749.9888

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail No. EL476258127US under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C., 20231.

5/14/02

Date of Deposit



Michelle J. Funston



25315

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

On page 1, please delete lines 7-14 and insert the following:

[RELATED APPLICATIONS]

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial Number 09/517,140 filed March 2, 2000, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial Number 08/975,774 filed November 21, 1997, which is a continuation U.S. Patent No. 5,897,493 issued April 27, 1999, which claims priority from Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/041,746 filed March 28, 1997 and from Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/041,751 filed March 28, 1997. All of the above named applications are hereby incorporated by reference.]

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/357,536 filed July 19, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,940,801 issued on August 17, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,828,943 issued October 27, 1998, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/682,385 filed July 17, 1996, now abandoned, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/479,570 filed June 7, 1995, now abandoned, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/233,674 filed April 26, 1994, now abandoned.

This application is also a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/293,363 filed on April 16, 1999, U.S. Serial No. 09/203,882 filed on December 1, 1998, U.S. Serial No. 09/159,219 filed on September 23, 1998, U.S. Serial No. 09/159,058 filed on September 23, 1998, U.S. Serial No. 09/203,880 filed December 1, 1998, U.S. Serial No. 09/201,323 filed on November 30, 1998, U.S. Serial No. 09/320,004 filed on May 26, 1999, U.S. Serial No. 09/318,708 filed on May 26, 1999, and U.S. Serial No. 09/274,433 filed on March 22, 1999 now abandoned.



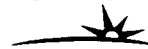
25315

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

- 7 -

HERO-I-1096AM

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM ^{PLLC}


816 Second Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104
206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of a U.S. Serial No. 09/422,046 filed October 20, 1999, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,168,563 issued on January 2, 2001, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,899,855 issued on May 4, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/233,397 filed on April 26, 1994 now abandoned, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,307,263 issued on April 26, 1994, and also U.S. Serial No. 09/422,046 is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,997,476 issued on December 7, 1999, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,897,493 issued on April 27, 1999, which claims priority to Provisional Application Serial No. 60/041,746 filed on March 28, 1997 and Provisional Application Serial No. 60/041,751 filed on March 28, 1997.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/237,194 filed on January 26, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,899,855 issued on May 4, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/233,397 filed on April 26, 1994 now abandoned, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,307,263 issued April 26, 1994.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/201,372 filed on November 30, 1998, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,879,163 issued on March 9, 1999.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/378,188 filed on August 20, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,985,559 issued on November 16, 1999, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,897,493 issued April 27, 1999.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/304,447 filed May 3, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,933,136 issued August 3, 1999.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/531,237 filed March 21, 2000, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 6,368,273 issued April 19, 2002, which is a Divisional of U.S. Patent No. 5,997,476 issued on December 7, 1999, which is a



25315

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,897,493 issued April 27, 1999, which claims priority to Provisional Application Serial No. 60/041,746 filed March 28, 1997, and also Provisional Application Serial No. 60/041,751 filed March 28, 1997 filed March 28, 1997.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/540,482 filed March 31, 2000, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/394,219 filed September 13, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,951,300 issued September 14, 1999.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/518,426 filed March 3, 2000 now abandoned, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,068,615 issued May 30, 2000, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,782,814 issued July 21, 1998, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,569,212 issued October 29, 1996.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/495,809 filed February 1, 2000, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 6,186,145 issued February 13, 2001, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,913,310 issued June 22, 1999, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,918,603 issued July 6, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,678,571 issued October 21, 1997, U.S. Serial No. 09/495,809 is also a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,334,778 issued on January 1, 2002, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,997,476 issued December 7, 1999, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,897,493 issued April 27, 1999, which claims priority to Provisional Application Serial No. 60/041,746 filed March 28, 1997 and to Provisional Application Serial No. 60/041,751 filed March 28, 1997, and also U.S. Patent No. 6,334,778 is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,940,801 issued August 17, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,828,943 issued October 27, 1998, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/682,385 filed July 17, 1996 now abandoned, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/479,570 filed



25315

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

June 7, 1995 now abandoned, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/233,674 filed April 26, 1994 now abandoned.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/496,893 filed February 2, 2000, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/041,809 filed March 13, 1998 now abandoned.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/658,209 filed September 8, 2000, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/237,194 filed January 1, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,899,855 issued May 4, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/233,397 filed April 26, 1994 now abandoned, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent 5,307,263 issued April 16, 1994.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,393 issued on May 29, 2001, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 6,023,686 issued February 8, 2000, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,887,133 issued on March 23, 1999, and which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,794,219 issued on August 11, 1998.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/152,353 filed September 14, 1998, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,832,448 issued November 3, 1998.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 6,167,386 issued December 26, 2000, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,023,686 issued February 8, 2000, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,794,219 issued August 11, 1998, and a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,887,133 issued March 23, 1999.



25315

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/441,408 filed November 16, 1999 now abandoned, and application U.S. Serial No. 09/810,334 filed March 14, 2001, which claims priority to Provisional Application Serial No. 60/189,536 filed on March 15, 2000.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/810,865 filed March 16, 2001, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,233,539 issued May 15, 2001, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,956,501 issued September 21, 1999.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 10/024,445 filed December 17, 2001, which claims priority to Provisional Application 60/256,715 filed December 18, 2000.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 09/274,431 filed March 22, 1999, and U.S. Patent No. 6,330,426 issued December 11, 2001, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Serial No. 08/953,883 filed October 20, 1997 now abandoned, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 6,144,837 issued November 7, 2000, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,601,435 issued February 11, 1997. U.S. Patent No. 6,330,426 is also a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,913,310 issued June 22, 1999, which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 5,918,603 issued July 6, 1999, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,678,571 issued October 21, 1997.

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Patent No. 6,210,272 issued April 3, 1997.

This application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application 60/239,533 filed October 10, 2000, and U.S. Provisional Application 60/242,681 filed October 20, 2000 now abandoned.

All of the above named applications are incorporated by reference.



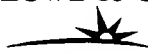
25315

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

- 11 -

HERO-1-1096AM

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM ^{PLC}


816 Second Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104
206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301